

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Amended) A device comprising:
5 a switch, disposed on said device, for turning power to a receptacle on or off;
a member coupled to the device and having a first position which allows a plug to be
inserted into said receptacle and a second position which prevents the plug from being inserted
into the receptacle; and
connecting means coupled to said member and to said switch to enable said switch to
10 connect the receptacle to a source of power when said member is in said second position.
2. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said connecting means disables
said switch from connecting said receptacle to a source of power when said member is in said
first position.
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3. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 1 and further comprising a locking means for
locking the plug to the receptacle when said member is in said second position.
4. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 3 wherein said locking means disables said
20 receptacle from accepting said plug when said member is in said second position.
5. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said connecting means turns said
switch to the off position when said member is moved from the second position to said position.
- 25 6. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the plug and the receptacle are
~~standard~~ electrical wiring components.
7. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, further comprising a mounting lug disposed
on said a housing for housing the device.

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8. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 1, further comprising a gasket mounted on said receptacle.

5 9. (Original) The device of claim 5, further comprising a gasket hold down clamp mounted on said receptacle.

10. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said connecting means comprises a first linkage and a second linkage, said first linkage and said second linkage are connected to each other.

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11. (Original) The device of claim 10, wherein said first linkage is connected to said member.

12. (Original) The device of claim 10, wherein said second linkage is operable to operate said switch.

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13. (Original) The device of claim 10, and further comprising a cam attached to said switch.

14. (Original) The device of claim 13, wherein said second linkage is operable to move said cam thereby moving said switch.

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15. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising:
a spring clip attached to said member; and
an indexer operably attached to said spring clip to cause said member to remain in said first or said second positions.

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16. (Original) The device of claim 15, further comprising:
knubs attached to said spring clip; and
indentations disposed on said indexer, such that said knubs on said spring clip fit into said indentations.

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17. (Previously Amended) A housing comprising:

a receptacle;

a member coupled to the housing and having a first position which allows a plug to be

5 inserted into or removed from the receptacle and a second position which prevents a plug from being inserted into or removed from the receptacle, and

connecting means coupled to the member to enable the receptacle to be connected to a source of power when the member is in the second position.

10 18. (Previously Amended) An actuating mechanism for operating a switch and other electrical device comprising:

an enclosure including an electrical plug receiving receptacle;

a switch which is selectively positionable in "on" or "off" positions, said switch being electrically connected with said receptacle; and,

15 a handle which is movably mounted on the exterior of said enclosure;

an actuating linkage means for operatively connecting said switch and said handle such that when said handle is in a first position a plug may be connected to said receptacle and said switch may not be placed in the on position, and a second position which keeps a plug from being inserted or removed when said switch is placed in the on position.

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19. (Previously Amended) The mechanism as set forth in claim 18, further including a locking means operatively connected with said actuating linkage means and with said receptacle for locking said switch in the "off" position in the absence of a plug fully received in said receptacle and for locking said plug fully received in said receptacle in the absence of said switch
25 being in the "off" position.

20. (Previously Amended) A method of coupling a plug to a receptacle comprising the steps of:

providing a member having a first position for permitting the plug to be inserted into or being removed from the receptacle and a second position for blocking the plug from being inserted into or removed from the receptacle;

placing the member into the first position;

5 connecting the plug to the receptacle;

moving the member into the second position where the plug may not be removed from the receptacle and enabling the receptacle to be coupled to a source of power.

21. (Previously Amended) A method of coupling a plug to a receptacle comprising the steps
10 of:

moving, to a first position, a member coupled to a switch, the member having a first position which allows the plug to be inserted into or removed from said receptacle;

connecting the plug to the receptacle;

15 moving, to a second position, the member coupled to a switch, the member having a second position which prevents the plug from being inserted into or removed from the receptacle; and

moving a switch from an off position to an on position, the switch only operable to be moved to an on position when the member is in the second position.

20 22. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the step of moving, to a second position, locks the plug into the receptacle.

23. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the switch is turned to the off position if the member is moved from the second position to the first position.

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24. (Previously Amended) A housing comprising:

a receptacle;

a member coupled to the housing and having a first position which allows a plug to be inserted into or removed from the receptacle and a second position which prevents a plug from

30 being inserted into or removed from the receptacle, and

switching means to enable the receptacle to be connected to a source of power.

25. (Previously Amended) A switching mechanism for operating an electrical device comprising:

- 5 an enclosure including an electrical plug receiving receptacle;
 a switch which is selectively positionable in "on" or "off" positions, said switch being electrically connected with said receptacle;
 a handle which is movably mounted on the exterior of said enclosure from a first to a second position;
- 10 mechanical means operable such that when said handle is in a first position a plug may be connected to said receptacle, and a second position which keeps a plug from being inserted or removed.

26. (Previously Amended) A device comprising:

- 15 a switch, disposed on said device, for turning power to a receptacle on or off;
 a member coupled to the device and having a first position which allows a plug to be inserted into said receptacle and a second position which prevents the plug to be inserted into the receptacle.

20 27. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 26, wherein the plug and the receptacle are ~~standard~~ electrical wiring components.

28. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 26, and further comprising a mounting lug disposed on said housing.

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29. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 26, and further comprising a gasket mounted on said receptacle.

30. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 29, further comprising a gasket hold down clamp mounted on said receptacle.

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31. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein the member is user accessible.
32. (New) The housing of claim 17, wherein the member is user accessible.
- 5 33. (New) The mechanism of claim 18, wherein the handle is user accessible.
34. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the member is user accessible.
35. (New) The device of claim 21, wherein the member is user accessible.
- 10 36. (New) The housing of claim 24, wherein the member is user accessible.
37. (New) The mechanism of claim 25, wherein the handle is user accessible.
- 15 38. (New) The device of claim 26, wherein the member is user accessible.